

**REMARKS**

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from the following claims: 6, 8, 12, and 13.

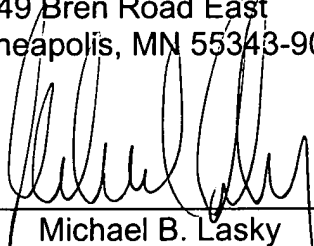
Applicant respectfully requests that this preliminary amendment be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's attorney of record, Michael B. Lasky at (612) 912-0527.

Respectfully submitted,

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10749 Bren Road East  
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Dated: 23 February 2000

  
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Michael B. Lasky  
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MBL/mka